

REMARKS

In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner divided the claims into the following groups:

Group I, Claims 2-27, 29-34 and 58-64, drawn to Vehicle System;

Group II, Claims 38-40, 44-46, 48, and 65, drawn to Method for controlling a flammability control system;

Group III, Claims 50-52, drawn to computer Readable Medium; and

Group IV, Claims 54-57 and 66, drawn to a system for controlling a FCS.

In addition, the Examiner requested an election of species from the following sub-groups:

- a. Fuel Tank Condition only;
- b. Operational Condition only;
- c. Fuel Tank and Operation condition in combination;
- d. Probability of Fuel Tank Ignition;
- e. Sensor Signals;
- f. Air Conditioning;
- g. Fuel Inerting Means;
- h. Wherein the second level is less than the first level but not equal to zero;
- i. Wherein the second level is less than the first level and equal to zero;
- j. Providing inert gas from a bottle;
- k. Providing inert bleed air gas from the engine;

- l. An indication that the aircraft is on the ground; and
- m. An indication of the rate of climb

In addition, the Examiner also required the applicants to elect a single disclosed species of operational signal source.

In response to the restriction requirement, the applicants elect Group I and the species of claims corresponding to sub-groups (b), (g), (k) and a landing gear signal source. This election corresponds to independent claim 29. Accordingly, applicants elect to proceed with independent claim 29 without traverse. Non-elected claims 4, 7, 9, 23, 30, 33, 34, 38-40, 44-46, 48, 50-52 and 54-66 have been withdrawn. In addition, claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11-22, 24-27, 31 and 32 have been withdrawn and amended to depend from base claim 29.


The applicants would like to respectfully point out that independent claim 29 was indicated to be allowable in the January 27, 2005 Office Action if rewritten in independent form to include all the features of the corresponding base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 29 was rewritten in the stated form in response to the January 27, 2005 Office Action. Accordingly, claim 29 is in condition for immediate allowance.

Furthermore, upon allowance of claim 29, applicants expressly request consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or which otherwise include all the limitations of the allowed generic claims. Specifically, this includes at least claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10-22, 24-27, 31, 32 and 34. These claims depend from base claim 29 and, accordingly, these claims are also in condition for immediate allowance.

No fees are believed due with this communication. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge any deficiency in fees herein to Deposit Account No. 50-0665.

Respectfully submitted,
Perkins Coie LLP

Date: June 15, 2005



Stephen E. Arnett
Registration No. 47,392

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 25096
Perkins Coie LLP
P.O. Box 1247
Seattle, Washington 98111-1247
(206) 359-8000